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# ***Daily Report***

## **Sub-Saharan Africa**

**FBIS-AFR-94-251  
Friday  
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# Daily Report

## Sub-Saharan Africa

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### **Buthelezi Says IFP Governing of KwaZulu Hindered**

*MB2912152194 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 29 Dec 94 p 2*

[Report by Tim Cohen]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi said yesterday that attempts were being made to block his party from governing KwaZulu/Natal and to rob the party of its victory in the April election.

Speaking to members of his clan, the AbakwaButhelezi, Buthelezi said he had had a "very chequered relationship" with Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini, so there was nothing new about the current crisis.

Although he had been given a mandate by the majority of the people of KwaZulu/Natal to govern the region, "it is quite clear that there are forces aimed at blocking Inkatha from governing this province".

He described the local government elections as a big challenge, saying that the chiefs had sent a delegation to see Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer concerning these elections. The delegation's members would place before Meyer their concerns about the future of the traditional authorities within the framework of local government as set out by the ANC.

"It appears that there are moves to rob us of our victory in the elections."

He said there had been controversies in KwaZulu/Natal about portfolios, the capital and now about a law passed by the legislature on the House of Traditional Leaders.

"It is clear that although we won the election in April, there are already concerted efforts to strip us of that victory," he said.

### **Mdlalose Against Using Arms To Settle Problems**

*MB2912152094 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1400 GMT 29 Dec 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The Inkatha Freedom Party's [IFP] branch in Paulpietersburg in Northwestern KwaZulu/Natal is calling for arms and wants the IFP to withdraw from the government of national unity. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, the national chairman of the IFP and the KwaZulu/Natal premier, Dr. Frank Mdlalose, says it has never been his party's policy to call for arms to settle political differences. Dr. Mdlalose says the IFP believes in peaceful negotiations. He said that although he understands the concerns of IFP followers concerning the government of national unity, the party disapproves of the use of weapons or force in finding solutions.

### **De Klerk Delivers New Year Message**

*MB3012081694 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 30 Dec 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Deputy President F. W. de Klerk says widespread strikes will destroy prospects of a better life for all. Delivering his New Year message, Mr. de Klerk said a government could be successful only if relations with those in its service were sound.

If the country was to attract investment, the government would have to be unwavering in the application of its economic policy, and investors would have to be certain of good returns.

Turning to education, Mr. de Klerk said only a sincere desire to learn could ensure a better education system. At the same time teachers should enforce discipline in schools, as well as apply self-discipline to themselves.

Mr. de Klerk urged local communities not to default on rent payments, saying the government's housing plans would come to nothing if rents were not paid. Mr. de Klerk concluded by urging everyone to cooperate with the police in order to combat crime.

### **Sisulu Criticizes De Klerk Role in Government**

*MB3012113494 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 30 Dec 94 p 2*

[Report by Ian Hobbs]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] London—ANC veteran Walter Sisulu has questioned the integrity of Deputy President F.W. de Klerk's role in the government of national unity, accusing him of acting against its interests in a long-term bid to regain power.

In an interview published in the British journal *Business Age* yesterday Sisulu, 82, conceded that the ANC leadership had failed to give the people "real direction", or properly respond to their expectations.

But he claimed that De Klerk and the National Party [NP] welcomed or even helped create crises as part of their campaign of returning to power.

"De Klerk appears to the world as a genuine person who has handed over power, but the truth is he wants that power back. He spends his time going around the world running his own political campaign, hoping to get back into office some day," said Sisulu.

"He appears to be behind us, but his real aim is to take power back. Even Mandela feels the same about him."

Sisulu, who was due to be discharged from hospital today after a heart attack earlier this week, said he recognised De Klerk's contributions, but also recognised his shortcomings.

"The National Party's last hope for power is that things will not run smoothly for the ANC leadership. They know that we have problems, and they want to take advantage of them."

He cited the example of recent disturbances when blacks tried to take over white properties in Cape Town, and Mandela sent him there to defuse the crisis. Sisulu claims that after investigating the cause of the incidents he found out "as a fact" that the NP "had a hand in the incident".

He told Business Age: "They were encouraging the ANC to be militant. All along it was the NP behind it, part of a deliberate plan coming right from the top—from De Klerk."

However, Sisulu expressed confidence in the ANC's ability to overcome its problems and implement the cornerstone of ANC policy—the reconstruction and development programme [RDP].

But he accepted blame due to the ANC, admitting that it had so far failed to sufficiently deliver election promises or correct the high expectations, and in some cases discipline, of its supporters.

"We have failed as a national leadership to give the people real direction" he said. "If you look at the number of strikes going on, it is obvious we have not been able to channel everyone's energy in the right way. The transition period has never been an easy thing, because there have been great expectations. I am afraid to say the organisation (the ANC) has not been in keeping with those expectations."

He also attacked opportunism and discipline, saying: "Some people who have never worked in their life before are now on strike. Millions of people are making millions of demands and setting their own agendas. Again, we must take the blame for that, because we never gave them a platform on which to build—just hope and expectation."

On his optimism that the ANC would be able to implement the RDP's promises, he said: "The Freedom Charter was the most inspiring document we (the ANC) ever produced, and this is the follow-up."

#### **Denies Remarks on De Klerk**

*MB3012115194 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1101 GMT 30 Dec 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg Dec 30 SAPA—The African National Congress on Friday denied any knowledge of a London news report quoting ANC veteran Walter Sisulu as saying he doubted the integrity of Deputy President F. W. de Klerk.

The article, published in the British journal BUSINESS AGE, also quoted Mr Sisulu, 82, as saying in an interview the ANC had failed to give the people "real direction" or respond properly to their expectations.

But ANC spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa told SAPA by telephone Mr Sisulu—who was released from a Johannesburg Clinic on Friday after a heart scare earlier in the week—denied "any knowledge of that (BUSINESS AGE) article".

The interview quoted Mr Sisulu as claiming Mr de Klerk and his National Party welcomed or even helped create crises as part of their campaign of returning to power.

"De Klerk appears to the world as a genuine person who has handed over power, but the truth is he wants that power back," the veteran politician was quoted as saying.

Responded Mr Mamoepa: "We (the ANC) wonder what is the aim of the report. Mr Sisulu has no knowledge of that report."

#### **ANC Members Vow To 'Weed Out' Azapo**

*MB2912135094 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 29 Dec 94 p 3*

[Report by Mzimasi Ngudle]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] African National Congress supporters allegedly attacked members of the Azanian People's Organisation [Azapo] at Tonga village outside Komatipoort, Eastern Transvaal, on Christmas Eve. The attackers allegedly vowed to weed out all Azapo members in the area. Azapo general secretary Mr Mpotse Kgogong said five Azapo members were badly injured in the attack which he attributed to political intolerance. One of the victims, Danisile Ngomane, was treated at Shongwe hospital and later discharged, a nurse at the hospital told Sowetan yesterday. Police in the area said no charges had been laid.

The other four are Mr Petrus Ngomane, Mr James Ngomane, Mr Elijah Hlatshwayo and Mr Fannie Sithole. The victims said the attackers told them Azapo should dissolve in the area because it had "no reason to exist or oppose the legitimate Government of National Unity". Kgogong said the action could only be deplored because of the reasons given by the attackers. He said Azapo would lay charges. Attempts to get the ANC to comment failed yesterday.

#### **PAC Renews Call for Redistribution of Land**

*MB2912184294 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1830 GMT 29 Dec 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Umtata Dec 29 SAPA—Newly elected Pan Africanist Congress [PAC] Deputy President Motsuku Pheko on Thursday repeated his call for the redistribution of the land dispossessed "from the Africans in this country". Dr Pheko made the call while visiting the grave of former APLA [Azanian People's Liberation Army] Chief Sabelo Victor Pama Gqwetha, and those of the schoolchildren killed in a raid by the former SA [South Africa] Defence Force in Northcrest last year.



He said MPs should have promulgated a law prohibiting any non-citizen from buying land until the "Africans in South Africa" were satisfied that the land issue had been resolved. Dr Pheko also visited APLA members at Wellington Prison in Umtata.

At a later press conference he expressed concern that there were still a high number of political prisoners in jail. He said in terms of the 1989 declaration of the United Nations on apartheid, South Africa would not really be free until all political prisoners were released. Dr Pheko is expected to stay in Transkei for a few days while being introduced to his followers.

#### **Chamber of Business Foresees 'Tough Choices'**

*MB3012063594 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0404  
GMT 30 Dec 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg Dec 30 SAPA—The year 1994 will stand out in history as a momentous year, but 1995 will be a year of tough choices, according to president of the South African Chamber of Business [Sacob] Les Weil in the chamber's annual new year's message.

Weil said despite the euphoria associated with the "political miracle" which took place in 1994, there was a growing realisation that the political miracle would be meaningless unless matched by improved economic performance in the years ahead.

"If we are to build on the opportunities created by the events of 1994, sound, investment-friendly policies are imperative," Weil said.

Furthermore, South African businesses would also have to take account of the implications of the opening up of the economy to international competitors and of the GATT agreement.

"All possible efforts must be made to improve competitiveness and raise productivity if local businesses are to benefit from our new status, and that means that some tough choices are going to have to be made—both by government and business," Weil said.

"We also need to work towards making the South African economy more accessible to all this country's people, and to creating jobs for the large number of people that are presently unemployed," he said.

#### **Agriculture Shortages Predicted Due to Drought**

*MB2912073194 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0650  
GMT 29 Dec 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pietersburg Dec 29 SAPA—Northern Transvaal will be unable to meet the region's food needs unless it rains within the next 10 days, Agricultural Department spokesman Jerry Mashapu said on Thursday [29 December].

The province, and in particular the former homelands of Venda, Gazankulu and Lebowa, was facing the worst drought in history unless the rains came soon, he said.

With little rain having fallen over most of Gazankulu, few subsistence farmers had planted a crop. Although some ploughing and planting had taken place in Venda and Lebowa, showers were urgently needed if any crops were to be harvested.

Of the 10,000 farmers in the Phokoane/Ndebele area only some 3,000 had managed to sow this summer. Minimal planting had been done in Zebediela and around Sterkspruit and Kadishi no crops at all had been put in. Prospects for irrigated crops were also grim because most rivers had dried up and water restrictions had been imposed.

Commercial dryland farmers in highly productive areas such as the Springbok Flats had also sowed crops over only a fifth or less of the available lands.

Although there was expected to be a marginal improvement in grazing conditions because of the showers that had fallen to date, stock and game farmers in many areas were still having to buy fodder for their animals.

#### **Article Assesses Tax Commission Proposals**

*MB2912120094 Johannesburg FINANCIAL MAIL in  
English 16 Dec 94 pp 14-16*

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] There is a fundamental flaw in the Katz Commission's often sensible recommendations on tax reform. It has a strong bias towards what the commissioners believe will be politically convenient for the ANC government.

It is not a single-minded endeavour to produce for this country the most economically efficient tax system.

The danger when tax commissioners allow political judgments to influence their thinking, is that utility is sacrificed to expediency and the outcome is invariably a progressive misallocation of scarce resources. If that is what the politicians want, they should be seen to bear the full responsibility. The commission's delicate balancing of what it believes to be politically possible with the need for efficiency deprives ordinary taxpayers of the facts they need in order to make up their own minds. And that in turn leads to the entrenchment of spurious notions, such as the belief that equity and utility are ineluctably at odds.

For instance, the need to give tax relief to middle income taxpayers, and the perceived constitutional obligation to iron out gender differences in tax, has led to the creation of a new, unified tax table. It compensates partly for years of fiscal drag when inflation pushed taxpayers in the band of R20,000-R80,000 [rands] annual income into ever higher tax brackets.

But to recoup the revenue that would be lost in this way, the commission has dug around among existing taxes

without enlarging the tax base to include burgeoning informal sector incomes. It has instead come up with a miscellany of increased taxes, but has hesitated to recommend any changes to VAT [value-added tax] or to the tax on petrol—both economically sound indirect taxes.

Some of the taxes proposed could justly be termed insidious, such as the proposed presumptive tax on companies, and are therefore politically dangerous.

The commission evidently believes its hand has been forced on proposing a single unified tax scale for single and married persons, men and women, because of the constitutional provision against gender discrimination. But this is a proposition that requires closer analysis. When the American Supreme Court (which functions as a constitutional court) concluded that school segregation was unconstitutional, it decreed that educational authorities had to move "with all deliberate speed" towards desegregation. This is not the same by any means as instantaneous compliance. There is no basis for supposing that SA's [South Africa] Constitutional Court would be less reasonable than the American court in requiring fiscal compliance with the gender clause in our constitution.

If the commission is right in supposing that successful restructuring of Inland Revenue and Customs & Excise could generate an extra R9bn of tax annually, not to mention accelerated recovery of the current arrears of R9bn in tax, then various concessions, including gender equality, could be made from a much stronger platform one to two years hence.

Compensation for fiscal drag is certainly urgent, but not at the cost of introducing other distortions into the tax system, even if they are regarded as temporary. There is nothing more permanent in tax matters than the temporary, as many fiscal precedents demonstrate. Experience has also taught us that there is a risk worse than non implementation of a tax commission's sensible recommendations—and that is selective implementation.

The report devotes many pages to analysing all aspects of VAT, but concludes that nothing should be done for the present to change either the rate or the list of zero rated foods. While we should be grateful that the commission has not yielded to COSATU's [Congress of South African Trade Unions] demands for further zero-rating, it has been timid in suggesting that any reinstatement of standard ratings should only be done once focused poverty relief is in place.

An efficient tax system is itself essential to poverty relief. But in any event this is a matter of political and social judgment from which the commissioners should have distanced themselves.

The main thrust of the recommendations is thus the unification of the three sets of tax tables, linked to income tax relief for the long-suffering middle class, for which fiscal drag has had such a damaging influence in

real after tax-income in the R20,000-R80,000 region. None of this has come cheap, as the commission was at pains to prevent the unification of the three present tax scales (for married and single taxpayers and married women) from forcing up in compensation the lower income brackets.

Coupled to this plan is the proposed reduction in the Site ceiling from R50,000—R30,000 a year. Kessel Feinstein tax partner Ernest Mazansky observes that this will enable all Site deductions to be at one flat rate of 9 percent—a vast simplification, and one which will assist seasonal and part-time workers as well as bookkeepers at small and medium-sized firms. These proposals must be read with the revamp of the rebate system. Taxpayers should be granted a rebate of R900, reducing to zero at an even rate over the range from R10,000-R20,000 annual income. If the tax rate for this range is 9 percent, this amounts to a tax threshold of R10,000 and a marginal rate of 18 percent for the next R10,000.

The overall cost to the fiscus of these simplifications of the present system of multiple rates and rebates (including the child rebate, the abolition of which is envisaged) would be around R1.2bn, which would have to be made up elsewhere in the tax system. If not, there would be an adverse effect on the deficit before borrowing, which is already uncomfortably large. The commission has also recommended a reduction in the number of tax bands, which will over the short run reduce the influence of fiscal drag. SACOB [South African Chamber of Business] president Les Weil argues the commission has erred in not recommending automatic annual indexation of tax bands to compensate for future fiscal drag.

All this is commendable enough, but it creates the problem of finding compensating revenue. It seems the commission has searched through the rest of the tax system to find areas which could be loaded with extra tax without causing too much distress. Some of these apply to companies, others to individuals in the upper income group.

These changes have imparted to the report a distinct tilt to the Left. As they stand, these impositions are not onerous, but if they are entrenched and subsequently found convenient to expand, they could undermine the balance of incentives.

The maximum marginal rate of tax recommended is 45 percent—to be attained at taxable incomes of R150,000. The long debated idea of a cap on the deductibility of pension, retirement annuity and provident fund contributions has been recommended.

Sacob's Weil says this will inhibit saving for retirement, which is still important in the absence of a social security system. But more than that, it will discourage investment which government is desperately trying to stimulate to create more jobs. To tax thrift is not an intelligent thing.

The commission also recommends curtailments of travel allowances on employees' cars. Kessel Feinstein tax

partner Ernest Mazansky says the commission is being naive in failing to recognise that these changes would result in an immediate switch to company cars from travel allowances.

There is much analysis but not much tangible reform of company tax. The proposal to introduce a tax on gross assets held by companies, CCs and non testamentary trusts is startling to say the least, and has justifiably aroused widespread suspicion. The proposed measure to be called a presumptive tax, would be set at R1, 500 a year on every R10m of gross assets, payable at the time of the first provisional payment, and would be treated as a deduction for income tax purposes. The long-term assets of life companies should be excluded.

Weil says the presumptive tax, if introduced, could open the way to a fully fledged wealth tax, to which Sacob is strongly opposed. Mazansky says it is noteworthy that the commission has Argentina and Chile as precedents. But it ignores other economic reforms there, such as widespread privatisation and abolition of exchange controls.

The report proposes a one-off tax amnesty, to be available for a limited time to those who come forward voluntarily. Those who do will be forgiven all taxes applicable to periods more than three years in arrear, and taxes within the three-year period will be free of interest or penalties. Those who reject the amnesty because they wish to carry forward losses will be allowed to do so.

Another useful proposal is to oblige individuals to furnish their tax registration number in a variety of circumstances, such as tendering for a contract with the State applying for employment with the State or a semi-State, or even registering at a university.

Tax consultant Willem Cronje says this is commendable as an interim measure, but SA should aim eventually for the equivalent of the U.S. social-security number, used for tax and many other purposes. Another approach is to key the book-of-life number into the tax system.

The commission has also drawn attention to transfer pricing as a means of tax evasion (it is of course, also a means of finessing exchange controls). This practice involves shifting the profit on a transaction to a jurisdiction of low or even zero taxes. This is commendable and in line with international practice, but must surely await a time when a restructured Inland Revenue has the resources to apply more sophisticated techniques.

A related issue is "thin capitalisation." This means the financing of a local operation primarily through borrowing, while share capital is modest or even nominal. This is considered disadvantageous for several economic and fiscal reasons. A set of criteria should be established for minimum share capital in relation to debt. Infringement could result in interest on the excess debt being treated as a dividend for tax purposes or denial to the

borrowing company of the deduction for the interest incurred. This will become much more important if exchange controls are abolished.

Of immediate concern is Secondary Tax on Companies (STC). The commission says we cannot abolish this tax now, though in the long run, the introduction of a system linking shareholders to the tax paid by companies on their holdings could replace it. This, of course, would impose administrative demands on Inland Revenue which it cannot meet now.

The existing general anti-avoidance Section 103 of the Income Tax Act is recognised as obsolete, as its test of "normality" gives little assistance to the fiscus in countering tax manipulations. It should be replaced with a wider-ranging "business test" as a matter of urgency.

There are important concessions recommended for small- to medium- sized businesses. They should be allowed the option of accounting for tax on a cash basis, which will help cash flow. They should also be allowed to use a simplified VAT return, to be called Easy VAT—modelled on precedents operational in many EEC countries.

Small businesses should be assisted through a unified procedure for payment of PAYE [pay as you earn], unemployment insurance, RSC levies and VAT. They should also be assisted by establishing what the commission calls "client-orientated" Revenue offices.

The remaining so-called tax incentives should be scrutinised, says the commission. Mazansky observes that the major remaining "incentive" is depreciation. So long as this is rationally determined, it is an essential cost of doing business, not an incentive at all.

Cronje opposes future proposals for dedicated taxes, which create the opportunity for lobbyists to influence fiscal policy not necessarily in the general interest. This leads to complexities if not inequities.

The salutary aspect of this report, which of course is an interim one is that it avoids the excesses of the spurious assumption that taxing the wealthy will reduce poverty. The opposite is, of course, true.

The report's emphasis on the need to improve collection efficiencies—an area on which unanimity was assured—cannot be gainsaid.

But it is deficient in the vigorous implementation of the principles that have been shown to enhance savings and therefore investment, and are necessary ultimately to maximise economic growth.

That is the price of allowing political judgment to influence economic utility. And it is a trend that will not be lost on foreign investors. [passage omitted]

#### **Institute Notes Flaws in Human Rights Bill**

MB2912153094 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 29 Dec 94 p 2

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Although the Human Rights Commission Bill has been amended to qualify some of



its more intrusive provisions, not all concerns surrounding some of the provisions have been removed, the SA [South Africa] Institute of Race Relations says.

Frontiers of Freedom, a publication released by the institute, says that the imbalance of representation still remains.

The commission has extensive powers to investigate any alleged violation of human rights.

If it believes there is any substance to the complaint, it is entitled to bring court proceedings against the alleged infringer.

But while the commission is empowered to arrange financial assistance for the complainant, the violator is entitled to a lawyer but no financial assistance.

The Bill also still allows the commission to exclude from its proceedings "any person the presence of whom is not desirable".

This provision entitles the commission to operate in complete secrecy, the publication says.

Commission members are still not liable for anything they say or do in connection with the commission, providing it is done "in good faith".

A commission member would not be guilty of defamation if he said he was convinced of the correctness of his allegations but had no proof, while anyone who defamed the commission would be guilty of an offence, Frontiers of Freedom says.

The publication quotes DP [Democratic Party] MP Douglas Gibson as saying, however, the Bill's authoritarian aspects had been severely circumscribed by the amendments.

There were now objective checks on its powers that could be tested in a court of law.

Edward West reports from Cape Town that the Freedom of Expression Institute says the rush to table the Freedom of Information Bill before Parliament could prevent important sectors from exercising their views in shaping the legislation.

Institute co-ordinator Jeanette Minnie wrote in an Institute for Democracy in SA publication that the timetable for introducing the Freedom of Information Bill to Parliament in the next sitting early next year was unsatisfactory.

The timetable left about three months for a task group appointed by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki to consult the public as well as to draft the Bill.

Minnie said civil society representatives should have been included in the task group so that their views could be incorporated.

The institute said there were also significant dangers in the Bill being drafted mainly by lawyers—the task group consists of lawyers and two representatives of the SA Communication Services—as lawyers could not be expected to know about development and information issues in SA.

Minnie said the public would only develop a sense of ownership and understanding of the Bill if it was involved in shaping it.

The organisation also expressed its concern about the limitations placed on the right of access to information, as contained in the Interim Bill of Rights, because currently there was no automatic right of access to official information.

For this reason it was imperative civil society was involved in the drafting of SA's Freedom of Information Bill, said Minnie.



## Angola

### Beye Discusses Meetings With Presidents

MB2912194694 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 29 Dec 94

[Passages in quotation marks recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] Alioune Blondin Beye, Joint Commission chairman and special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola, is already in Luanda and says a meeting between President of the Republic Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], is imperative to improve the present political atmosphere. Our colleague Edgar Rangel has more details:

[Rangel] Alioune Blondin Beye is already in Luanda after visits to three African capitals. Five days were enough to hold talks with the presidents of Zaire, Zambia, and Zimbabwe and have a brief rest. During his meetings with Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire, Chiluba of Zambia, and Mugabe of Zimbabwe, Alioune Blondin Beye discussed the political and military situation in Angola. He took the opportunity to explain the results of his visit to the United States and means for the creation of the UN Angola Verification Mission [Unavem]-3:

"First, I wanted to explain the results of my visit to the United States. Second, I wanted to discuss with the heads of state the means and conditions needed for the creation of Unavem-3. In conclusion, I wanted to explain the present political and military situation here in Angola and to continue to request assistance for the consolidation of the Angolan peace process."

The Joint Commission chairman says a meeting between the president of the Republic and the UNITA leader is imperative to improve the present political atmosphere:

"I already have talked about the political atmosphere's improvement. There were three vital factors in the political atmosphere. First, the protocol's signing. This has materialized. Second, the holding of the Joint Commission session here in Luanda with the presence of a UNITA representative. That too has materialized. Third, a meeting between President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Dr. Jonas Savimbi. We are working in the best way possible to achieve this meeting. I will not tell you the venue and the date of the meeting because I already have talked too much."

Alioune Blondin Beye also said the military situation still is not the best but said it cannot be compared with December 1993:

"We are happy with the present military situation. It could be improved. I am certain that [words indistinct]. We think the improvement of means of communication between the two parties and the arrival of military observers will [words indistinct]."

### UNITA Official Criticizes Beye's Remarks

MB3012071194 London BBC World Service in Portuguese 2030 GMT 29 Dec 94

[From the "Ultima Hora" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye returned to the Angolan capital today but the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] continues to criticize his performance. In an interview he granted a French newspaper recently, UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi went so far as to say he would not meet Blondin Beye again. The UNITA headquarters is now in Bailundo, an area visited recently by (Nicholas Saxon), REUTER correspondent in Angola. He asked Marcial da Chala, foreign affairs adviser to General Lukamba Paulo Gato, UNITA minister of general affairs, whether that perception had changed.

[Begin Chala recording] I believe that when an important figure plays a mediator's role on behalf of an organization as prestigious as the United Nations then that figure must have a balanced approach to things. However, Mr. Blondin Beye made an unbalanced statement when he said that UNITA President Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi had not gone to Lusaka because he had suffered military defeat, felt humiliated, and was diplomatically isolated. By making such remarks, Mr. Blondin Beye adopted a stance typical of a government propaganda agent. Obviously, such stands disqualify Mr. Beye from his position as mediator. It is not that our president does not wish to meet Mr. Beye, rather, Mr. Beye has disqualified himself. [end recording]

So, what is UNITA's plan to overcome the current peace process crisis caused by UNITA's distrust of UN Special Representative Blondin Beye? Marcial da Chala replied as follows:

[Begin Chala recording] UNITA has its team to the Joint Commission in Luanda. The team is led by Mr. Isaías Samakuva, UNITA ambassador to the United Kingdom. That shows our commitment to the process. You, gentlemen, have been here in the company of Colonel Guma, UN Angola Verification Mission-2 representative for the Central Region, so UNITA has no intention to drop out of the peace process. Quite the contrary: We have asked time and again that the Blue Helmets come to Angola as soon as possible. We have replied positively to all invitations made by the government concerning meetings among top officials, so there is no question of UNITA wanting to distance itself from the peace process. I must repeat, though, that Mr. Blondin Beye disqualified himself from his position as mediator following his interview with Portugal's O PUBLICO newspaper and his remarks in New York. [end recording]

### Correspondent Visits UNITA Camp in Bailundo

MB2912204194 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 29 Dec 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] [passage omitted] Robin White asked our correspondent Anthony Goldman what the UN envoy [Alioune Blondin Beye] had to say about his trip and the state of the peace process.

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] [White] You yourself, you have been in central Angola in search of the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leader. So far, how much progress did you make?

[Goldman] We actually managed to get to UNITA's headquarters in a small [word indistinct] place called Bailundo. It is about 60 to 70 km from the main city in the region, Huambo, and we have a fair feeling Jonas Savimbi and some of his senior aides were actually in the town. Because they said they hadn't been notified of our arrival, they said that it wasn't possible to see anyone, that in fact all of the senior people were out in the villages and we would have to arrange it another day.

[White] And how much of organization was there in this place?

[Goldman] Well, it is quite obviously in UNITA control. They have quite a few soldiers around the place and several checkpoints along the way which are manned by fairly ragged soldiers, UNITA soldiers, but they were all reasonably well-armed. In the town itself and in UNITA areas, there seemed a distinct absence of food and medicines and some of the medical [words indistinct] soldiers lying around the place and few AK-47's leaned up against the walls and [words indistinct] beds or drugs or doctors.

[White] How long has this place been UNITA's headquarters?

[Goldman] Well, this place has been in UNITA hands for quite a few years but it actually only became formally their headquarters after the fall of Huambo, after the government recaptured Huambo a month ago, and this is kind of a fallback place and it certainly doesn't really match up to a provincial capital in terms [word indistinct]. It is rather a small, sleepy, quiet [words indistinct].

[White] I gather that in spite of the fact that there is supposed to be a cease-fire, you saw evidence that both sides are in fact still recruiting soldiers?

[Goldman] Certainly on the government side. Just before leaving Huambo, it was quite clear that the government had just recruited around 80 new recruits. They didn't look awfully happy about it. I was told by other people that they weren't exactly volunteers, and this is in direct contravention of the Lusaka Accord which specifically stated that the two sides should stop new recruits. There are similar reports on the UNITA side of people being press-ganged into their armed forces. There appears they are [words indistinct] contravened the peace but also that the two sides perhaps are preparing, when it comes to demobilization, to offer up

these new recruits, people who haven't really been in the army and aren't properly trained, and keep their real soldiers. [end recording]

### UNITA Radio Reports Attacks in 3 Provinces

*MB3012074694 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Calo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 30 Dec 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party's [MPLA-PT] troops continue to violate the cease-fire agreement. In Cuanza Norte Province MPLA-PT troops continue to launch military operations against National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]-controlled areas.

Morais Abel, the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel [Vorgan] correspondent in Cuanza Norte Province, says the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] Provincial Command has issued a communique reporting that on 22 December a group of armed MPLA-PT forces attacked Samba Lucala Commune's Tonga and Quibaxe de Cima Wards and abducted 89 people.

On 24 December another group of Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] troops attacked that commune's Sumbe Ward, killing 11 civilians, wounding another 19, and abducting dozens of people.

That FALA communique also says that FAA forces in Gulungo Alto received direct orders from Lieutenant General Ngueto to begin attacking the UNITA-controlled area of (Quimaquene) on 29 December.

Meanwhile, the government forces have continued to carry out major attacks on various parts of Huambo Province. Quoting sources in the FALA General Staff, Vorgan correspondent Lourenco Bento reports FAA aircraft left Huambo Airport on 24 December and attacked the area of Calima, south of the city of Huambo. On the same day, a 5th Regiment Battalion attacked UNITA-controlled positions on the outskirts of Sambo. On Christmas Day another FAA battalion carried out raids on the northernmost tip of Huambo Province. The FALA General Staff reports that 28 civilians lost their lives as a result of those cowardly and criminal operations. [passage omitted]

The FAA forces are also on a full-fledged military offensive in southern Cunene Province. Sources in the province say a FAA battalion coming from Cuvelai attacked two villages in the UNITA-held area of Calonga on 25 December. A total of 20 civilians were killed and another 28 abducted. Nothing has been learned about their whereabouts so far. The FALA Command for Cunene Province warned yesterday that the situation could become serious if the United Nations does not send in observers to see what [FAA chief of General Staff] General Joao de Matos' armed forces are up to.

**MPLA Air Force Bombs Caluquembe; 7 Killed**

*MB2912130994 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo  
Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 29 Dec 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The war is continuing in Angola. More people lost their lives in the northern and southern parts of Huila Province's Caluquembe District yesterday in the wake of a bombing raid by the Angolan Government's Air Force.

This happened yesterday when two Sukhoi-25 aircraft left Lubango air base and dropped massive loads of lethal bombs over civilian areas in flagrant violation of the Lusaka peace accord. Seven people were killed and another 14 wounded as a result of the attack. Most of those killed and wounded were women and children [words indistinct] UN observers in the city of Lubango [words indistinct].

**Government Said Forcing Youths Into Military**

*MB2912144094 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo  
Negro in Portuguese 1200 GMT 29 Dec 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Angolan Government is press-ganging youths into its military forces, the Angolan Armed Forces, in areas under its control. The UN in Angola already has condemned the action and asked the government to stop it because it violates the Lusaka Peace Accord. According to the UN, the press-ganging of youths is more intense in the city of Huambo and involves 16-year-olds. The Lusaka Peace Accord bars each side from recruiting more troops. Thus, doubts still persist about the government's seriousness in restoring peace to the country since recruiting more troops now means preparing for war. [passage omitted]

**Proposals To Resolve Cabindan Issue Reviewed**

*MB2912171594 Luanda IMPARCIAL FAX in  
Portuguese 4 Dec 94 p 1*

[FBIS Translated Text] The government is concerned about demands for regional autonomy in Cabinda, eastern Angola, and Bakongos. The most serious case is Cabinda, which has forced the Angolan Government to ask for a study. This study, which was submitted on 29 September, presents measures to deal with the Cabindan issue.

The strategy document submitted to the government says the political and administrative decentralization must comprise two phases:

First phase—administrative decentralization, giving the provinces greater administrative autonomy;

Second phase—political decentralization, enabling the provinces to acquire political autonomy as well as some legislative autonomy.

To carry out the necessary actions (there is no need to wait for the end of the war to initiate local government reforms), the following "timing" [preceding word in English] must be followed:

A. The present phase (the document was presented in September) that will conclude with the peace accord's signing. During this phase, the government must approve a local government policy as well as instruments that will make its implementation viable.

B. Political pre-stabilization, which will lead to the conclusion of the electoral process that began in 1992, the demilitarization of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, and the conclusion of UN participation in the Angolan pacification process. The document expects this process to last three years, until 1997.

C. Political stabilization—this is considered the period when all legal organs of power and sovereignty will be functioning smoothly. In other words, the principal political and military subversion threats against the Angolan regime will be removed. This phase is expected to take place in the last two to three years of this century.

According to the document, the period for implementing the principal decentralization efforts is in the last two phases (between 1996 and). [sentence incomplete as published].

Meanwhile, the document advises that there is a need to adopt some urgent measures with regard to Cabinda because of activities by Cabindan and other political forces, foreign interests, and requests for bilateral meetings by some forces.

The document points out, however, that in order to begin discussions on the Cabinda issue, the following fundamental principles must be fulfilled:

"Immediate cessation of military actions and social agitation;

"Respect for the unitary nature of the Angolan state as well as the historical, cultural, social, and economic nature of Cabinda through a progressive adoption of a statute/political decentralization model/territorial distinctiveness of this province, whose general principles will be enshrined in the revised constitution;

"Respect for the integrity and sovereignty of the Angolan state and the indivisibility of its territory, as well as its unity, national solidarity, and equality among all national citizens."

The document does not ignore diplomatic and economic strategies that must follow the decentralization process. Thus, in the diplomatic field, the Governments of the United States, France, Portugal, and Belgium must be discreetly briefed and enlightened on the solutions and actions involved in the process. Likewise, African governments (at a more advanced stage) also must be enlightened on the issue.

In the economic field, there is a need to find a compromising, balanced, and mutually advantageous solution for the principal internal economic interests, related to



Cabinda's natural wealth, with immediate and clear benefits for the residents of the region and the country in general.

In conclusion, the document advises against beginning political discussions on Cabinda without concluding the Lusaka peace talks.

#### **UNITA on Government Cooperation With Portugal**

*MB2912082294 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo  
Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 29 Dec 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] is not happy about the existing military cooperation between Angola and Portugal. Engineer Adalberto da Costa Junior, the UNITA representative in Lisbon, said in the Portuguese capital yesterday that such cooperation could endanger the Angolan peace process. The UNITA official said this during a debate on bilateral cooperation in Lisbon. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] What does UNITA think about the existing military cooperation ties between the Portuguese and Angolan Governments?

[Junior] UNITA is still waiting for answers to the questions it asked some time ago. The Portuguese Government has not yet shown it is capable of answering these questions. It would be very good for the Portuguese Government, the Portuguese people, the Angolan people, and UNITA if Portugal assumed its responsibilities and answered the courageous and objective questions posed by UNITA some time ago.

[Correspondent] What does UNITA think about the [word indistinct] case?

[Junior] Quite clearly, UNITA does not just think. There is concrete and real evidence that confirms the Portuguese Government's total involvement and support for the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA]. These are unquestionable and undeniable facts. The documents that have been published by Portuguese newspapers cannot be denied. In fact, the Portuguese Government has not issued any denial. The big question now is: What stand will the Portuguese Government adopt in future? This is the big question that the Portuguese Government has not been able to answer. [end recording]

#### **FLEC Releases 3 Polish Nationals in Cabinda**

*MB2912185694 London BBC World Service in English  
1740 GMT 29 Dec 94*

[From the "African News" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Rebels in Angola say they have freed three Polish nationals who were kidnapped a month ago in the north of the country. In statements to

the media in the Congolese capital, Brazzaville, officials from the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave, or FLEC, said that it released the men after mediation by the bishop of Cabinda. The three men were working for an Italian logging company in the Cabinda enclave. There has been no confirmation of the men's release from the Polish authorities. FLEC is fighting for independence for the enclave which produces about 60 percent of Angola's oil.

#### **Malawi**

##### **Banda Reportedly Back From South Africa**

*MB2912143894 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English  
29 Dec 94 p 4*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Former Malawi president Dr Kamuzu Banda is back in his country after receiving medical treatment at the Garden City Clinic in Johannesburg. A spokesman for the clinic would not give further information yesterday, saying the hospital "protected its VIPs".

It is believed that Banda might have had treatment relating to the brain surgery he underwent at the same clinic in October last year.

#### **Mozambique**

##### **Limpopo River, Massange Dam Completely Dry**

*MB2912065894 Maputo MEDIAFAX in Portuguese 29  
Dec 94 p 1*

[Article by Rui de Carvalho: "Limpopo River is dry"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Chokwe—The Limpopo River is dry. We were in Chokwe on 23 December, and we found that this river, the principal river in southern Mozambique, does not have even the slightest flow of water. Drought is a very real danger here.

We also went to Massange Dam, which is also dry. The same applies to the canal, and the irrigation system has been seriously damaged as a result. Even a person who knows very little about such matters can rapidly conclude that something is quite wrong.

The river's bed is full of small holes made by people looking for water, which can be found one meter beneath the surface.

Jonas Tivane, a private farmer in Chokwe, says that "it has been many months since it last rained in this area." [passage omitted]

Tivane also noted that "if God forgets about us, then the Mozambican Government is much more likely to do so. It is widely known that the government does not care about us. Chissano has always doubted the quality of the work done by Chokwe farmers. Perhaps the farmers in Chissano's birthplace [Malaissa] receive better treatment than we do." [passage omitted]



This was the dominant perception we came across in the area of Chokwe—namely, that the government has stopped caring for the people.

So much so that Mrs. Amelia Cossa, a housewife born in Mozambique but living in South Africa, conveyed the belief that Chokwe should be handed over to South Africa because of the links across the border.

Mrs. Cossa noted that with this government, "we feel we are foreigners." [passage omitted]

### Namibia

#### Country Said Facing 'Serious' Drought

MB2912135994 Johannesburg THE STAR in English  
29 Dec 94 p 7

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Namibia could be facing another serious drought with most of its stock grazing areas already in dire straits and crop production threatened if rain does not fall within three weeks.

The country's Emergency Management Unit (EMU), in Windhoek, said emergency measures are expected to be announced by the government soon, either in the form of providing fodder for farmers or assisting them in selling off stock.

Much of Namibia suffered an early end to the last rainy season in March and has already lost the value of what

little rain that fell in October and early November, said EMU meteorologist John Olszewski today.

"If we do not get 10 mm we will lose initial grass growth." He said a cell of high pressure over the Atlantic Ocean just off Namibia's northern coastline, was preventing normal rainfall. "It's a classic bad sign for rain and dry conditions, at least over the western half of southern Africa," the weatherman said.

He said a major shift of moist air from south-eastern Angola and western Zambia was needed to save the day in Namibia. Meanwhile food distribution has already started in several regions of the country, said Permanent Secretary for Agriculture, Water and Rural Development, Isaac Kaulinge.

"The EMU is constantly monitoring the situation and will include other regions in the food distribution if necessary. But mahango (the staple) can still be successfully established if it rains in the next few weeks," he said.

Worst affected are the eastern regions, bordering the Kalahari Desert, where the largest dam in the area, the Otjivero, is empty.

The levels of permanently flowing rivers in the far north, including the Okavango and Zambezi, have also dropped dangerously low.

## Ghana

### Rawlings on Achievements, Constitutional Rule

AB2712204494 London BBC World Service in English  
1705 GMT 27 Dec 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] This weekend sees the anniversary of the coming to power of Ghana's leader, President Jerry Rawlings, and there have been some big changes since his coup 13 years ago. Ghana has returned to constitutional rule and in 1992, Jerry Rawlings left the Army to stand in multiparty elections, which he won in the (?teeth) of complaints from the opposition. French journalist, Sebastien Ince, met Jerry Rawlings in Accra recently and he asked him what he felt he had achieved.

[Begin recording] [Rawlings] Talking about me personally, I can only measure my person in this political situation in relation to what my country has achieved. We have, of course, made quite a few material gains, but I think the one that I find or that gives me the most satisfaction is the new level of confidence of our people. In other words, I am talking about the spirituality. If you had been with us some time ago, I mean, before the outbreak of our revolt, you would then appreciate what I am talking about because a dispirited nation or people, a nearly emasculated people, cannot be creative, and I think this is where we have made the most gains.

[Ince] And on the other side of the coin what do you feel are the greatest disappointments?

[Rawlings, sighing] Yeah, I guess.... [pauses] Looking back at the anger of our people at the point in time of the revolt, you know when people are oppressed for so long or you treat them like animals, like dogs, you should be surprised if or when they behave like human beings. [as heard] The biggest criminals who have taken this country for a bigger ride all these years [words indistinct] I mean, some of these businessmen, the corrupt ones. Now, mind you, do not misunderstand me. Some people think I detest businessmen. No, I do not. I respect, I like honest and successful businessmen, but I detest successful but dishonest businessmen because successful and dishonest businessmen destroy the moral fiber of a society so that the honest ones just spend the rest of their time, you know, fighting against the ways of the corrupt ones.

Part of the problem we have in the Third World is how to deal with this issue of corruption from the top to the bottom level so that a lot of those who have gained materially out of this country that led to the political and economic and social decline that led to the revolt escaped—not that they escaped; they were right here, but our military paid the price for it. Our people were demanding blood but our people paid the price, and we spent the rest of the time trying to cool anger, cool the temper of the people and saying that look, let us have mercy, let us be merciful. One would have thought that such people would have learned their lesson, but it has

become quite clear that they learned no lesson out of that shock treatment, and in terms of the down side of it, the disappointment aspect of it is that the kind of politics they have been doing ever since we introduced constitutional rule is like the old type of politics.

I would not be here if they had learned their lesson because some of us are tired, but when they started making silly promises, empty promises, you could see that they were out of touch with the new reality. They are underestimating the intelligence of the people. They do not seem to recognize that the people have gained a new level of consciousness; all the foolish, sweet, beautiful promises that they were making to our people.... [pauses] I never made one single sweet promise, despite that our people voted for us massively.

[Ince] What changes have you felt in terms of running the country since the new Constitution was voted in in 1992?

[Rawlings] Let me be very blunt and very honest with you. Constitutional rule, from my experience, has been a fairly difficult thing for our people in the sense that.... [pauses] Take a look at this government for instance: So much time is spent in trying to obey the Constitution instead of providing creative and dynamic leadership. At every turn, you have these lawyers and these opposition elements bringing up the issues, in other words, using technical issues, you see what I mean, to frustrate governmental efforts. Not only that, but on the whole, constitutional rule has a way of taking away the healthy spontaneity out of our people and this is not healthy. So how to dynamize this Constitution, how to make it.... [pauses] how to energize it in such a way that people would identify, you know, the healthy spirituality of it is what we have a problem doing but.... [sighs]. [end recording]

## Liberia

### Cease-Fire Holding; NPFL Forces Celebrate in Ganta

AB2912173094 London BBC World Service in English  
1515 GMT 29 Dec 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] At midnight last night a cease-fire was due to come into effect and dignify five years of civil war in Liberia, it was agreed by all seven warring factions in Accra, Ghana, last week. Previous cease-fires and truces had been short-lived if they happened at all. Apparently this one is holding so far, although in one region it seems there was fighting right up until the last minute. It was between Charles Taylor's NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] and the Liberian Peace Council in the Rivercess area near the port of Buchanan, south of Monrovia. From Monrovia, Nyenati Allison telexed this report:

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Aid workers said here today that the fighting had been raging for the past one week, forcing a fresh wave of people into the western port city of Buchanan. They said that the displaced are arriving in Buchanan at an average of 300 per day, and that a total of some 2,500 women, children, and the elderly had now arrived in Buchanan using bush paths. One international aid worker said and I quote, they are arriving from Gbarnga, Totota, and Rivercess, and the children come in very skinny, some with swollen limbs. It is a pitiful sight. [no end of quotation as heard] He said that 200 people were being treated every day for infectious diseases, and he expressed the fear that cholera may break out.

Meanwhile, the Alhaji Koromah faction of Ulimo [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] and the Armed Forces of Liberia today issued separate statements saying that their men had been ordered to cease fire. The chief of staff of the African peacekeeping force, Brigadier General (Gabriel Aniakele), said that the general cease-fire had taken effect last night. Up to this afternoon, he said, the cease-fire is holding. He said he believed the fighting in central and southeastern Liberia had stopped before the cease-fire deadline. He added: We have heard no reports of continuing gun battles.

Of course, the effect of the cease-fire depends on whether the message gets through to the fighters themselves, and ultimately whether they are ready to lay down their weapons and stop fighting. Well, it seems Charles Taylor's men are well ready and at Ganta were rejoicing today as Jonathan Peleyle reports in this fax from Ganta:

Two groups of NPFL fighters carrying their AK-47's took to the streets of Ganta this morning, dancing and chanting pro-Taylor slogans. Reports reaching here from NPFL commands in rural areas speak of calm and jubilation among the fighters. One commander of the Jungle Fire Unit told me it would have been shameful to have a cease-fire if the NPFL had not regained control of its headquarters in Gbarnga. Another fighter from Sabiba base told me the escalation of the war was too ugly and not of our own making. We must stop the war now, because we, fighters, are hated by the civilians. When I visited Ganta, the city was relatively calm, although NPFL soldiers were positioned in strategic sites. Although Ganta is jammed, part with fighters, battlefield attitudes seem to have relaxed. In the eastern bloc of Ganta, a group of fighters argued about what time the cease-fire should have taken effect.

#### Various Figures on Efficacy

AB2912210394 London BBC World Service in English  
1830 GMT 29 Dec 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] At midnight last night a cease-fire was due to come into effect ending the five years of civil war in Liberia. It was agreed on by all seven warring

factions in Accra, Ghana, last week. Previous cease-fires and truces had been short-lived, if they happened at all. Apparently this one is holding so far, although in one region, Rivercess, near Buchanan, it seems there was fighting between Charles Taylor's NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] and the Liberian Peace Council right up until the last minute. Well, the man who has to oversee the cease-fire and the whole peace process is the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] peacekeeping force commander, General John Innienger. Josephine Hazely has been in touch with him to find out what he thinks of the chances of this cease-fire taking:

[Begin Hazely recording] On a crackling telephone line from his base in Monrovia, Gen. John Innienger told me that, on the basis of information received so far, the cease-fire is holding, and he said he is optimistic that the cease-fire will be observed in the future. According to him, his positive reaction is based on the fact that, unlike previous cease-fire agreements, which allowed rebels to stay in their frontlines, the current one demands that faction fighters assemble at points to be decided by ECOMOG, the United Nations, and all seven of the warring factions. The parties' compliance to this agreement, Gen. Innienger told me, will be a better way of proving that the cease-fire is indeed holding. The ECOMOG chief added: From the 12th of January 1995, the verification team will begin checking on the effective implementation of the cease-fire, and now that all sides have been brought on board there will be no excuse for them not to disarm.

Asked whether he has enough troops to help keep the peace, especially as the Nigerian Government has recently been cutting down on its force in Liberia, the ECOMOG commander said that the whole exercise depends on good faith from all sides. If and when the parties are committed to disarmament, he said, it will be a very easy task. You do not need a peacekeeper to police every inch of ground to preserve the peace. Gen. Innienger also gave the assurance that he is personally committed to his role in the country and is particularly heartened by the resolve of the ordinary Liberian people. [end recording]

Nevertheless, it will probably be easy to disrupt such a fragile cease-fire at this early stage. An NPFL delegate in the Liberian National Transitional Government, Cyril Allen, called us up to say that Tom Woewiyu, leader of a breakaway group of the NPFL, was preparing to do just that. Robin White asked him what evidence he had that Tom Woewiyu was up to no good:

[Begin recording] [Allen] Well, our evidence is clear, our evidence is quite clear. This morning we went by the Barclay Training Center right in a road to the center of town and we met a couple of people that we knew from Grand Bassa County in the years back during the war, and they informed us that they were a part of a group that has been requested by Woewiyu—Tom Woewiyu—



and the rest of them to get on board two trucks to go down to Grand Bassa County with arms and ammunition to go and make attempts to derail the peace process that has already been concluded.

[White] Why on earth should they tell you that?

[Allen] Well, because they had refused; these were two elements that have refused to join the group and were just standing by looking at the group and pointing to them and saying these people are on their way now and they had requested us to do that, but according to their chief we are not interested in that because we know that the peace process is already on and these people are making attempts to try to derail it. So as they came and lodged... [pauses] it was like a complaint.

[White] Have you been in touch with Mr. Woewiyu?

[Allen] No, it is not necessary to be in touch with Mr. Woewiyu, because I am not in touch with anyone who wants to bring more destruction and detriment to the Liberian people.

[White] [Word indistinct] if you are accusing Mr. Woewiyu of something, would it not be pretty easy to pick up the phone and check with him whether that is true?

[Allen] Well, when I see something physically I do not have to go checking with no Woewiyu or nobody else. [end recording]

Well, he might not feel it necessary to call Tom Woewiyu, but allegations that he is sending truckloads of arms and ammunition from the Barclay Training Center to Grand Bassa County are serious. As it turned out, Tom Woewiyu called us, and Josephine Hazely asked him if it was true:

[Begin recording] [Woewiyu] I have absolutely nothing to do with transporting arms or anything that would provoke this war to Grand Bassa County or any other part of this country. I called you for something else. I did not want to get involved with this kind of stuff. We do know that the information coming out of Grand Bassa County is that Charles Taylor's NPFL has attacked the road going to Grand Bassa County which is an AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia] position, and the road seems to be interfered with at this point—I mean on this day—and also they are attacking other coalition positions such as in the Rivercess and other places in the country, I mean one....

[Hazely, interrupting] When did it happen? Before the cease-fire?

[Woewiyu] It is happening now. This is happening now, but everybody has kept quiet because we have hope that maybe, sooner or later, the cessation of hostilities will take form and so on. So, no one is ringing a bell, but if Cyril Allen would call you and tell you something like

that, the truth is Mr. Taylor has not ceased fire. He is attacking all over the country, but that is not what I called you for.

[Hazely] You called us up to tell us, you said, about your nomination or appointee to the new transitional council?

[Woewiyu] Yes, I called to say an executive committee meeting this afternoon, which took place at the Justice Ministry in Monrovia, the coalition of the parties to the Liberian conflict—AFL, NPFL-Central Revolutionary Committee, Lofa Peace Council, elected Dr. George E. Bolay as the representative of the Coalition-AFL to the State Council. [sentence as heard]

[Hazely] And Dr. George Bolay, if I remember rightly, used to be the chairman of the Liberian Peace Council.

[Woewiyu] Yes, Dr. Bolay is the chairman; he is still the chairman of the Liberian Peace Council, which is also party to the coalition. [end recording]

### UNOMIL General 'Optimistic'

AB3012114294 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English 0900 GMT 30 Dec 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The deputy chief military officer of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia [UNOMIL], General Haq Aziz says UNOMIL is optimistic that the cease-fire among the Liberian warring factions will hold. Gen. Aziz told BBC Wednesday [28 December] that all of the various warring factions have assured the international community including the United Nations, ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States], and OAU, that they will stop fighting to give peace a chance.

An information ministry release quotes Gen. Aziz as saying that they have been assured by the warring factions that they are going to respect the Accra accord. According to MICA [Ministry of Information and Culture in charge of Administration], Gen. Aziz told the BBC that once the factions inform their fighters about the cease-fire, the United Nations will conduct its own independent monitoring and observation. On Wednesday night Liberian warring factions—the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia, Ulimo {United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia}], AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia] and coalition—were expected to cease all forms of hostilities against one another as stipulated in the Accra peace agreement, which was recently signed by leaders of the factions in Ghana.

Gen. Aziz noted that for the creation of buffer zones the factions have to exercise a great deal of goodwill to make the agreement work. He said UNOMIL will be redeploying its men on 12 January along with ECOMOG [ECOWAS Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] and that more observers will be sent into the country to monitor the general situation in Liberia.



## Sierra Leone

### More Rebel Attacks on Kenema Reported

*AB2912170094 London BBC World Service in English  
1515 GMT 29 Dec 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Although the Sierra Leone Government has been congratulating the Army and the civilian population for their parts in repelling the latest spate of rebel attacks in the east and south of the country, the rebels keep coming back. They seem able to slip in and out of provincial centers, such as Bo in the south and Kenema in the east, virtually at will. Now there has been another rebel incursion at Kenema. From Freetown, Victor Silva telexed this report:

Reports from Kenema indicate that yesterday evening things were calm. But this morning, another attack, lasting about 45 minutes, woke up the residents. It seems

that an intensification of the mopping up operation was necessary. However, one resident told me today that they would never allow themselves to be intimidated by the rebels, whose agenda is anybody's guess. Meanwhile, reports from Mile 91 say that rebels destroyed a training school set up by the Sierra Leone Roads Authority, as well as a number of vehicles belonging to the project.

The government has condemned these brutal attacks and offered commendation to the civilians of Bo and Kenema who had come under fire. The government also praised the Sierra Leone Armed Forces and condemned the rebels for not keeping to the spirit of peace negotiations. The government also appealed to the public in its statement to be extra vigilant. Even so, the government has not revealed exactly what kinds of negotiations are going on or with which sections of the RUF [Revolutionary United Front] it is talking.

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